

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EA-13

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INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8979

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS: MARR VS

SUBJECT: CANDEL VIEWS ON STATUS OF ICCS

1. SUMMARY SENIOR CANDEL OFFICER MAY 22 DESCRIBED POLGARIAN OBSTRUCTIONISM AS CONTINUING WITHOUT RELIEF. CANDEL IN FACE OF HUNGARIAN PRESSURE CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN ICCS MUST PURSUE ITS INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES EVEN THOUGH INVESTIGATIONS HAVE HAD LITTLE IMPACT. ALTHOUGH POLGARIANS OBSTRUCT INVESTIGATIONS, CANDEL BELIEVES THEY AND PRG/ DRV WISH TO RETAIN ICCS STRUCTURE IN FIELD. SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER RECENTLY CONVEYED TO CANADIANS INTEREST OF USSR IN CONTINUED FUNCTIONING OF COMMISSION. CANDEL RELATIONS WITH INDOS HAVE IMPROVED SINCE TERMINATION OF INDO CHAIRMANSHIP. LAO BAO HELICOPTER INCIDENT REPORT WILL REFLECT DEVELOPMENTS OF VIEWS RE PRG RESPONSIBILITIES. CANDEL SEEMS TO CONFIDENTIAL

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FAVOR CONTINUED CANADIAN PARTICIPATING IN ICCS.

2. EMBOFF MAY 22 PROBED CANDEL VIEWS ON RECENT ICCS DEVELOPMENTS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS OF COMMISSION. TURNER CANDEL MINISTER/ SENIOR

POLITICAL ADVISOR NOTED POLGARIAN OBSTRUCTIONISM CONTINUES WITHOUT RELIEF. HE DID NOT AGREE WITH EMBOFF' S SUGGESTION TACTICAL APPLICATION OF OBSTRUCTIONIST ACTIVITY HAD SHIFTED TO SLIGHTLY MORE SUBTLE LEVEL. WHILE POLGARIANS DEMONSTRATE FLEXIBILITY IN CHOOSING MEANS TO BLOCK OBJECTIVE INVESTIGATIONS, TURNER STATED OVER ALL THRUST REMAINS HIGHLY CONSISTENT AND HE COULD NOT PERCEIVE EVEN A STYLISTIC IMPROVEMENT IN POLGARIAN BEHAVIOR. HE COMMENTED THIS IS NOT OBVIOUS IN ICCS FIELD OPERATIONS WHERE POLGARIAN REPS MUST BEAR THE BRUNT OF THE INSTRUCTIONS WHICH DICTATE OBSTRUCTIONISM. POLES FROM OUTSET HAVE BEEN HARDLINERS. HE NOTED. ON THE OTHER HAND HUNGARIANS HAVE EVOLVED FROM A DELEGATION( IN FEB) ATTEMPTING TO PROTECT PRG INTERESTS AND AT SAME TIME DEMONS-

TRATING SOMEWHAT SERIOUS AND OBJECTIVE INTENTIONS TO A PARTICIPANT DEDICATED WITHOUT DEVIATION TO " SOCIALIST UNITY". TURNING POINT WAS THE EARLY MARCH FLLAK THE UNGARIANS RECEIVED FROM THE DRV OVER THE COMMISSION' S CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORT ON THE FEB INCIDENT INVOLVING DRV FPJMC PERSONNEL IN HUE.

3. TURNER OBSERVED THAT PLENARY HAS NOW ENGAGED IN SEVERAL HOT DEBATES ON VALUE OF COMMISSION INVESTIGATIONS INTO CEASEFIRE COMPLAINTS WITH HUNGARIANS ARGUING INVESTIGATIONS ONLY SERVE TO FURTHER DIVIDE THE TWO SVN PARTIES AND THAT ICCS SHOULD NOT BOTHER WITH ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATIONS. CANDEL WHILE RECOGNIZING INVESTIGATIVE ROLE HAS HAD LITTLE OR NO APPARENT IMPACT, BELIEVES ICCS HAS NO CHOICE UNDER PARIS AGREEMENT BUT TO CONTINUE TO TRY TO IMPLEMENT INVESTIGATION PROVISIONS AND CANNOT FATHOM WHAT RAISON D' ETRE THE COMMISSION WOULD HAVE IF IT ABANDONED INVESTIGATIONS. CERTAINLY EXTENSIVE SUB REGIONAL STRUCTURE WOULD BE NEEDLESS, CANDEL BELIEVES. IN ANY EVENT, UNLESS SIGNATORIES REVISE ICCS MANDATE, CANDEL COULD NOT AGREE TO HUNGARIAN CALL FOR ICCS TO RESTRICT ITSELF TO " ASSISTING" TWO PARTIES TO RESOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES.

4. CANDEL SOURCE ALTHOUGH NOT SPEAKING IN TONE OF PARTICULAR DEPRESSION, CONFESSED HE COULD SEE LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF ICCS MAKING AN IMPACT ON SCENE AS LONG AS POLGARIAN INSTRUCTIONS ARE TO CONFIDENTIAL

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OBSTRUCT INVESTIGATIONS. HE PUZZLED HOWEVER OVER APPARENT DESIRE OF PRG/ DRV TO KEEP ICCS STRUCTURE IN PLACE. HE POINTED OUT FOR EXAMPLE THAT INDODEL PROPOSALS IN APRIL TO HAVE ICCS WITHDRAW FROM ALL SUB REGIONAL SITES AND HALT INVESTIGATIONS NOT ONLY FAILED TO OBTAIN POLGARIAN ENDORSEMENT BUT HAD PRECIPITATED POLGARIAN STATEMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO THE IDEA. SIMILARLY EE REPS INSISTED ICCS WITHDRAWAL FROM DUE CO SHOULD BE REGARDED AS ONLY TEMPORARY, AND THEY RESISTED PROPOSAL FOR WITHDRAWALS FROM AN LOC AND BEN HET. TURNER ADDED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO HAD TOLD CANADIAN AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW LAST WEEK SOVIETS HOPED ICCS WOULD CONTINUE TO FUNCTION WITH ADDED IMPLICATION THAT CANADIANS WOULD OPT FOR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION. TURNER THEN WONDERED AROUND HOW LONG ICCS MIGHT BE CONSIDERED BY FOUR PARTIES PARTICULARLY

US- AS A USEFUL INPUT INTO VIET NAM SCENE AND WHETHER USSAT ANY POINT MIGHT SEEK TO RECONVENE FOUR PARTIES OR PARIS FINAL ACT GROUP TO DISMISS COMMISSION. EMBOFF REPLIED SUCH THINKING WWAS CLEARLY PREMATURE.

5. ON OTHER SUBJECTS TURNER REPORTED STRAINS WHICH HAD ACCELERATED IN APRIL BETWEEN CANDEL AND INDODEL HAVE SUBSIDED DURING MAY NOW THAT INDODEL HAS VACATED CHAIR. TURNER STATED INDOS, WHILE CHAIRMAN ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS HAD SUBMITTED COMPROMISE PROPOSALS ON ISSUES BEFORE POSITIONS OF RESPECTIVE CHIPS HAD BEEN PRESENTED, AND CANDEL WAS REPEATEDLY OBLIGED TO BEAT BACK THE CHAIRMAN. INDOS HAVE NOW REVERTED TO EARLIER FORM BEING LAST TO SPEAK IF AT ALL AND THEN SUBMITTING OCCASIONAL COMPROMISE PROPOSALS WHICH CANDEL CAN OFTEN ACCEPT.

6. POLISH PERFORMANCE IN THE CHAIR SINCE MAY 1 HAS REFLECTED CAREFUL PREPARATION PARTICULARLY ON PROCEDURAL MATTER. TURNER SAID AMBASSADOR WASILEWSKI HAS BEEN THOROUGH IN AGENDA AND CHAIR RESPONSIBILITIES BUT HAS ALSO ATTEMPTED TO SLIP A FAST BALL PAST CANDEL WHEN HE THINKS CANDEL IS LOOKING THE OTHER WAY.

7. APRIL 7 LAO BAO HELICOPTER INCIDENT REPORT WHICH CONSISTS OF AN INCH PLUS BOOK OF DOCUMENTATION WILL BE DISCUSSED AT MAY 23 PLENARY. TURNER STATED REPORT CONSISTS OF A BRIEF STATEMENT REGARDING PROCEDURES INVOLVED IN THE INVESTIGATION AND FOUR SEPARATE NATIONAL STATEMENTS. (TURNER COULD NOT ACCOUNT FOR SEPARATE INDODEL/ CANDEL REGION I STATEMENTS EXCEPT THAT PERHAPS BOTH DELS PREFERRED TO STATE THEIR FINDINGS IN THEIR CONFIDENTIAL

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OWN WORDS EVEN THOUGH THE SUBSTANCE WAS THE SAME.) POLGARIANS APPARENTLY REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE FLIGHT 006 WAS SHOT DOWN STATING POSSIBILITY OF AN ACCIDENT COULD NOT BE DISMISSED. POLGARIANS HAVE AGREED FLIGHT 115 AND OCCUPANTS WERE SHOT AT ON THE GROUND ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE OF COURSE INJECTED APPROPRIATE EXCUSES FOR SUCH PRG BEHAVIOR. ALL CHIP'S AGREED CHOPPERS WERE OFF COURSE.

8. COMMENT: TURNER DID NOT SPECULATE ON FORTHCOMING CANDIAN DECISION RE FUTURE ROLE IN ICCS. ALTHOUGH HE WAS FAR FROM EBULLIENT ABOUT ICCS PERFORMANCE/ PROSPECTS HE EXPRESSED VIEW THE COMMISSION IS STILL A CHALLENGING PROPOSITION AND IT WAS APPARENT HE HAD LITTLE DESIRE TO SEE CANADA PULL OUT AT THIS STAGE. MANY OF HIS REMARKS POINTED TO CANDEL THINKING ABOUT FUTURE TACTICS AND STRATEGY. OVER PAST SEVERAL WEEKS WE HAVE DETECTED SOMETHING OF A CHANGE IN CANDEL THINKING AND BETTING ON ISSUE OF CONTINUED CANDEL SEAT. (CANDEL EXTAFF SAIGON HAVE A POOL ON CANDIAN OPTIONS AND MAJORITY OF BETS AS OF MAY 21 WERE ON SIDE OF SIX MONTH OR LONGER EXTENSION OF CANDEL). THERE IS A DEFINITE SHIFT WITHIN CANDEL FAVORING ONGOING ROLE. EMBOFF MAY 21 WAS TOLD BY A CANDEL THAT FIVE OF SEVEN REGIONAL CANDEL CHIEFS FAVOR CONTINUING. SAME SOURCE STATED HOWEVER THAT EXTAFF OTTAWA AND MINISTER

SHARP HAVE BEEN GENERALLY OPPOSED TO AN EXTENSION. DEFENSE AND TRADE  
MINISTRIES REPORTEDLY TEND TO FAVOR EXTENSION.

9. IN EMBOFFS SESSIONS WITH CANDEL WE ARE CONTINUING TO  
EMPHASIZE NEED FOR CANDEL TO STAY ON BOARD IF ICCS IS TO  
HAVE USEFUL ROLE IN STABILIZING CEASEFIRE.  
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NMAFVVZCZ

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